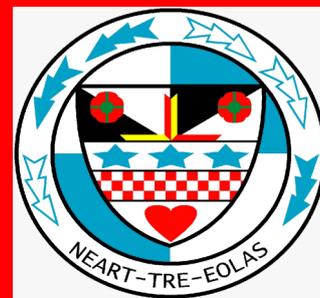


DOUGLAS ACADEMY NEWS

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2018



Strength through knowledge

Once again we are fast approaching the end of the first term of session 2018 – 2019. Listening to the wonderful choirs, orchestras, wind and folk bands in St Paul’s Church on Monday 17th December, and having enjoyed the great atmosphere of the Christmas Dances, everyone is now ready for a well deserved break. As always, the term has been an incredibly busy and interesting time and for staff and pupils. While our new S1 intake have settled well into our school community, our Fourth Year pupils have just completed their Prelims and across all year groups our young people have impressed us with their commitment by working hard and participating in the many additional opportunities that Douglas Academy offers to them. As a staff we enjoy working with them and are very proud of their many achievements.

On behalf of all of the staff of Douglas Academy, I extend to you our warmest wishes for a happy and restful festive season.

Barry Smedley
Head Teacher

Nursery Visit

On Thursday 13th December 35 children from Milngavie Nursery came up to Santa’s grotto.

The S5/6 Skills for Learning, Life and Work group transformed the Contemplation Room into a winter wonderland. The morning began with the children making marshmallow olaf, followed by a tasty snack. Then, with the help of the S5/6 group, the youngsters wrote their letters to Santa. When Santa arrived he spent time talking to them. Once they listened to a story, they received a present and certificate to mark the occasion. There was lots of music, dancing and games and all involved had an amazing time. Milngavie Nursery were



very grateful for all the effort the SLLW group put into making it such a successful event. A special mention to Sophie Jordan, Jordyn Lafferty, Bethany McLeod, Emily Archibald, Paul Darroch and Chad Peek for working so hard in all events this session. A very special thank you to our very own Santa Claus who each never fails to entertain the children. Well done again SLLW group, you were amazing!

Parent Council

Douglas Academy Parent Council supports our school in a number of different ways, such as; encouraging links between the school and parents; collating and representing the views of the Parent Forum; and supporting parents to become more involved in their child’s learning. You can find out more about the work of our Parent Council on the school website. You can also contact our Parent Council via e-mail at dcouncil@douglas.e-dunbarton.sch.uk.

PTA

If you would like to get involved in the PTA, please have a look at Douglas Academy PTA Facebook page.



The Douglas Academy News is produced for the parents, pupils and friends of Douglas Academy. It usually appears towards the end of every other month. All comments, enquiries, suggestions or contributions will be very welcome.



Comfort Babies mid year news

Name of baby: Ibarushimbabazi Noelle

Name of parent: Ingabire Clarisse

Name of sponsor: Douglas Academy

How has the baby's health and weight developed over the last few months?

Noelle has really grown and mostly happy that she now speaks lots of our native language and understands when I speak. I think generally, Noelle is totally fine.

What are your best memories from the summer?

Being visited by Becca and the team has made my summer and whole year full of joy and remarkable year in my life.

Is the project still helpful for your baby's development and yourself? If yes or No can you tell us why?

Yes project still supportive of course and provide all needs in time to prevent moms and babies from suffering.

Can you give a message to your sponsor please?

Dear Douglas Academy

From deepest of my heart I want to say thank you so much for the gifts and that you think of me. Life would have been so much difficult but with you I am living happy life with my family and baby. All the time know that you have special place in our hearts and at my home and your sponsorship has saved our lives. I all the time benefit from Comfort Babies a lot. I get clothes to wear, shoes, and other needs for the baby.

May love of God be with you all the time! I wish I could fly to the UK and say thank you with my whole voice for everyone to hear.

Becca has visited us and we are all grateful for that love. It has really touched our hearts till today when we sit and remember Becca visiting us in our house. We thank God for big family we have. Much love with full of appreciation words!

Noelle and Clarisse!



**comfort
international**
a little can change a life



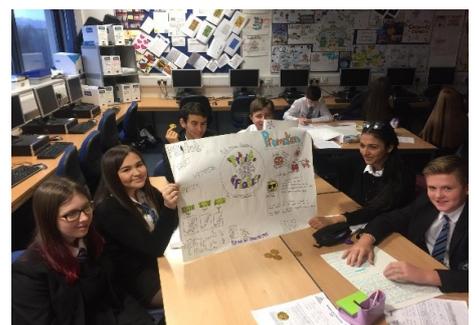
S3 Dragons' Den Enterprise Project

In October, S3 Business Management took part in group project that brought their Business skills into the spotlight. Pupils were part of a contextualised Dragons' Den project where they were required to create a brand of cereal that appealed to specific target markets and win an investment from the Dragons.

The pupils had to think of a cereal that would attract their targeted customers. They utilised their knowledge from the Marketing unit, creating a logo, name, slogan and promotional campaign that would appeal to consumers. Pupils also created a prototype of what their cereal brand and box would look like, before pitching their creation to the Dragons.

The pupils had a great time taking part in the challenge. They enjoyed working together to create an end product and enjoyed developing many Skills for Learning, Life and Work such as meeting deadlines, communications, teamwork and staying motivated.

Well done to everyone who took part and created some fantastic products that could take the market by storm in the future!





The Computing Science Department at Douglas Academy was proud to present pupils for the international Bebras Challenge, held over two weeks between 5th – 16th November. The Bebras Challenge aims to promote Computational Thinking amongst pupils (and teachers!) through a series of short questions which require logical thinking. The objective is to get participants to use the same way of thinking and reasoning as they would use in solving computer related problems.

This year we had 294 pupils take part, with overwhelmingly positive feedback on enjoyment and interest. The results are in, and it seems that the future of computational thinking at Douglas Academy is rosy. In particular, some of our pupils showed fantastic computational thinking to record scores that were in the top 10% of all pupils in their age group *in the UK!!!* These pupils are now invited to take part in a follow up event to be held in March, details of which are available at <http://tcsocc.uk/>. This is an incredible achievement and the Computing Science Department would like to congratulate them:

From S1: Evan Greer, Rose Macdonald, William Roper-Caldbeck, Conall Haig, Archie Simpson, Reis Ates, Ryan Fraser,

From S3: Kiron Dutton, Rory Bryan, Adam Nicolson, Angus Maciver

From S6: Gordon Qiu

The top 10 in our school in each category were:

S1 & S2:	Class	Total Score
William Roper-Caldbeck	1.4	117
Archie Simpson	1.5	103
Conall Haig	1.4	102
Reis Ates	1.5	99
Rose Macdonald	1.2	96
Evan Greer	1.1	95
Ryan Fraser	1.5	94
Aaron Low	1.2	92
Nuala Kerr	1.2	89

S5 & S6:	Class	Total Score
Gordon Qiu		143
Owen Sherriff	5B	138
Ryan McHugh	AH	123
Tom Shearer	5B	122
George Yarr	5B	122
Raheel Amjad	5C	118
Logan Martin	AH	113
Aneel Amjad	5C	111
Fergus Rutheford	AH	108
Lucas Lemoine	AH	105

S3 & S4:	Class	Total Score
Kiron Dutton	3G	155
Rory Bryan	3G	141
Adam Nicolson	3G	121
Angus Maciver	3I	119
Adam Ferguson	3I	116
Fraser Speirs	3G	109
James McCorkindale	3I	109
Finn Carden	3I	108
Lewis McLeod	3G	102
Oscar Weir	3G	100

Higher Photography Exhibition

A new exhibition celebrating the talent and creativity of Higher Photography candidates is now open at the Scottish Parliament. Higher Vision showcases some of the best images taken by 26 students from schools and colleges throughout Scotland who have completed SQA's Higher Photography course over the past year. The exhibition features the work of former Douglas Academy pupil, Poppy Dempster. Poppy's project: 'The Human Impact' focuses on the harm that humans inflict on the environment and in particular the damage littering can do to the planet and the urban problems that have arisen in recent years. The exhibition is on display in the Parliament's Main Hall until Friday 8 February 2019, and entry is free.



Poppy Dempster with her 'Human Impact' photographs



Poppy Dempster and family with Ken Macintosh, Presiding Officer, Scottish Parliament

Lunchtime Drop Off

This session, our S4 students in our Health & Food Technology department decided it would be nice to give something back to the community. Eight pupils made up lunch boxes to hand out to some of our local residents over the course of a week in November. The lunch boxes consisted of sandwiches, a multi-vitamin drink, vegetable soup, fresh fruit salad, yoghurt and a scone. Pupils worked together to prepare this box and had lots of fun in the process. Having been given names of places to visit through Carers' Link and Oakburn, our S4 set off to give out the lunch boxes. The lunch boxes were all gratefully received.

We would like to thank all those that kindly let us come into their homes. Pupils had a lovely time and felt a great sense of achievement.



DOUGLAS ACADEMY Vintage Afternoon Tea

Everyone loves a traditional Afternoon Tea and the Skills for Learning, Life and Work Group dished up a wonderful Vintage Tea on the afternoon of 29th November 2018, the day before St Andrew's day. The Staff Room had been transformed into a perfect tearoom and our guests from Milngavie were delighted to tuck into the spread of sandwiches - homemade on the premises, of course - cakes, biscuits and the very special Douglas Academy tablet! The cake stands were piled to the top and the kettles were boiling away when the guests arrived to be welcomed by Music School pupils playing a selection of Celtic music. Colin Hood S6 recited some Scottish poems.

There was still plenty of time for a good chin-wag round the cake stands and there didn't seem to be any end to the cakes!

Well done to the staff at Douglas Academy for ensuring the usual high standards were met and surpassed!

Bring on the next tea party!



Remembrance

Pupils at Douglas Academy paid their respects to those who died in times of conflict at a special ceremony of remembrance held in the school on Armistice Day. The one minute silence was signalled by the 'Last Post' performed by fifth year pupil, Angus Friel. School Captains, Colin Hood and Katie Hamilton gave short readings and local piper, Donald Mackenzie from Mackenzie Bagpiping.com concluded the ceremony with the lament 'Flowers of the Forest'. Poppy banners designed by senior art pupils were on display in the social space accompanied by poppies made by the Eco Schools Committee created from recycled plastic bottles. With almost a thousand young people, teaching and non-teaching staff present, this was a very poignant moment in Douglas Academy's school community.



This very moving and dignified ceremony followed special assemblies led by sixth year pupils: Melissa Devlin, Kayla Gardner, Colin Hood, Ashley Kerr, Logan Martin, Euan McElhinney, Calum McIlveney, Murray McIntyre, Olivia Niblett and Amy Thirlwell.

L to r - Donald Mackenzie, Colin Hood, Katie Hamilton & Angus Friel

Raising Money for Refugees

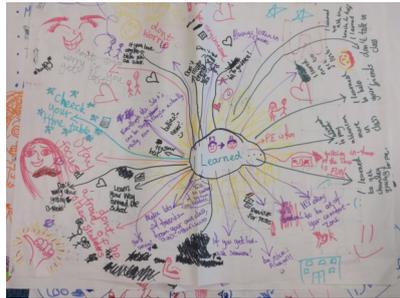
Our S2 English class with Mrs Aldous took part in a September challenge to raise money for refugees. Altogether we raised £171 for the British Red Cross 'Miles for Refugees' project. We did this by cycling, swimming, walking and running a few miles each. Our goal was 23 miles, the same length as the English Channel, but we managed to reach a total of 39 miles! We did this to understand what it is like to be a refugee and to be able to say that we helped them. We got the inspiration from the novel we have been studying in class called 'The Bone Sparrow.' This is about a boy called Subhi who lives in a refugee camp. The novel helped me to understand what it is really like as a refugee.



GSA Visit

Professor Steve Love and two members of his research team (Daisy Abbott and Jordan Trench) from the School of Visualisation and Simulation at the Glasgow School of Art gave a workshop to all S2 pupils on 9th November, 2018. Steve showed a short video of their research work in Augmented and Virtual Reality, including VR architectural fly-pasts of iconic Scottish buildings and AR models of viruses. The team told us about their various career pathways into research and emphasised the multi-disciplinary approach of their school.

Next, the pupils took part in a process known as Rich Pictures Design. Pupils practised the technique by planning a Glasgow Tourist Application. They then moved on to designing a game for new S1 pupils. We have kept the designs created by the pupils and plan to create these games in Computing Science after Christmas.



Team Robbie!

Robbie Readie of 2A has been unwell recently and to help keep up his spirits we decided to hold a 'Wear Blue for Robbie Day' on Friday 23rd November. Staff and pupils worked hard to ensure there were a range of activities and games, including a raffle with some fantastic prizes, as well as a 'Name the Teddy' and 'Guess How Many Sweets are in the Jar!' We really appreciated the fact that so many local businesses and donated prizes.

Everyone arrived wearing something blue – Robbie's favourite colour.

While there was a staff coffee morning in the staff room, over interval we held an excellent bake sale, with 'MasterChef' standard muffins and cookies from pupils and staff.

However, the busiest part of the day was by far lunch time, as the guest appearances began with Derek Johnstone and Broxy Bear. They were then joined by Robbie's parents who were delighted to represent Robbie who unfortunately wasn't feeling too well on the day. There was an air of excitement and anticipation as we all gathered to watch the 'teacher versus pupils' football and netball matches at lunchtime.

With all the help and support of staff, pupils and local businesses a total of over £2000 was achieved. The money raised will be a great help for the alterations being made to the family home. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making the day such a success ... and to Robbie, very best wishes for a speedy recovery!



Music live lounge

Douglas Academy Music Department

S1 perform 'Songbird' by Oasis

S2 perform 'Chasing Cars' by Snow Patrol and One Direction's 'What Makes You Beautiful'

S1 and S2 class bands perform to invited guests!

S1 and S2 classes create their own class band playing a choice of instruments including vocals, bass guitar, piano/keys, guitar, drum kit and ukulele. They also have a production team which help prepare for live lounge while also designing a band logo and creating invitations and advertisement posters. They perform to other pupils, teachers and in some cases family members attended the performances which took place during normal class time in music.

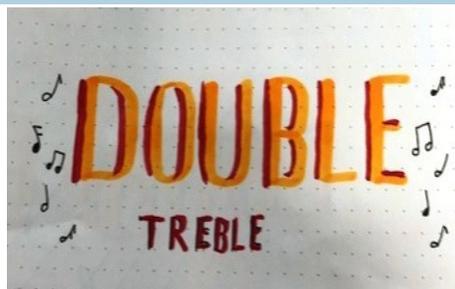


'Live Lounge is a great bonding experience as you get to work with others in the class that you perhaps wouldn't normally get the opportunity to work with'

Taylor Glencross—Band Manager and Drummer for 2.9 **Tesco Trolleys**



1.5 **High On Music** designed their own logo and T-shirt which they wore for the performance.



1.7 **Double Treble** for their photo shoot just before their Live Lounge performance guests



1.3 **Musical Mahyem**

2.4 **Sea Sharp**

Music in the community

Douglas Academy Music Department

Local Venues

- } Fraser Centre
- } Dobbies Garden Centre
- } Abbotsford Care Home
- } Oakburn Care Home
- } Elm Court Care Home
- } Buchanan Galleries

Music Events in our local community

Many of our Music students have been performing in a variety of venues to entertain our local community or to help raise funds for charity.

Charities that have benefited:

Teenage Cancer Trust and Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity.

Some of our Higher Music Students provide some Christmas entertainment at the Abbotsford Care Home



Senior Pupils perform at the Fraser Centre in Milngavie



Brass Quintet help to raise funds for Teenage Cancer Trust at Dobbie's Christmas Festival



Advanced Higher String Quartet prepare for Elm Court Care Home

Porto Football Trip

In late October Mr Gray, Mr Stepney and Mr Luisi took 25 boys on a football coaching trip to Porto in Portugal. We met on a Tuesday at Milngavie train station and took a coach to Edinburgh Airport for our flight. When we arrived at Porto airport we were met by our Inspiresport rep, the wonderful Joao Luis. It was a late arrival at our fabulous beachside hotel and we only had time for dinner before bed.

It was an early start on our first full day and, after a filling breakfast, we transferred to the Dragon Force Foz training complex for our first coaching session. It was a lovely warm day and our Portuguese coaches were excellent, teaching us many useful techniques and routines. It was easy to see why FC Porto is one of Europe's top clubs. After lunch we had another coaching session, this time at Constituicao Park, home of Porto's youth team. Before dinner we had some time at the hotel to relax by the pool, or enjoy Joao Luis's many jokes and magic tricks.

Day 2 was a gentler day with only one full coaching session, but with different routines and some specialist coaching for our 2 goalkeepers. We had more time in the evening to enjoy the hotel's facilities – 10 pin bowling, table tennis and snooker. We also got the chance to meet some other school groups on sports tours.

Day 3 saw some more coaching during the day before we began to plan for our competitive matches in the evening. After dinner we transferred to the Dragon Force Viana training complex. The junior team played first and put in a wonderful team display to beat their Portuguese rivals 4-0. It was great to see the boys make fantastic use of their coaching, and especially nice for the coaches to take time out of their Friday evening to manage us. The senior team was up next and had a hard game, but managed to win 1-0. Both teams were delighted with their performances, as were their teachers.

Saturday was our last day. In the morning we visited FC Porto's futuristic Estadio do Dragao Stadium. We were guided on a stadium tour and visited the museum and club shop. We then enjoyed a fantastic lunch in the VIP restaurant. After lunch we had a chance to see Porto itself. It is in a beautiful setting alongside the steep banks of the Douro River, and it is steeped in history as Portugal's second city. We had time to visit a local shopping mall before we had to head to the airport for our flight home. We arrived back in Milngavie in the early hours of Sunday morning and headed to bed to take advantage of the extra hour as the clocks changed to reflect on a fantastic experience.



Thomas Muir Schools Art Competition

Finlay McLaren, Amy Rutherford and Kelsey Scott, all S1, were selected from 1200 entries to be finalists in the annual East Dunbartonshire Thomas Muir Schools Art Competition.

This year's competition asked pupils to create an artwork inspired by the early years of the Forth & Clyde Canal, which was the period during which Thomas Muir lived. Pupils were inspired by the kind of wildlife and creatures that people would see.

Each artwork has been professional mounted and framed. The 'Finalist Exhibition' event was held on Monday 10th December and the pupils' artwork will be on exhibit at the Thomas Muir Coffee Shop and will continue until the end of March. Each artwork has been professional mounted and framed. The 'Finalist Exhibition' event was held on Monday 10th December and the pupils' artwork will be on exhibit at the Thomas Muir Coffee Shop and will continue until the end of March.

This years are judges were;

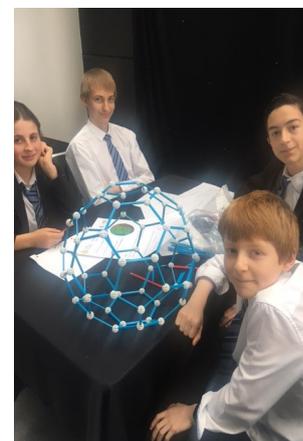
- Roddy Buchanan (Artist)
- Peter McCormack (Museums Development Officer - EDC)
- Melanie Sims (EDAC)
- Esmee Thompson (Trails and Tales – EDLC)



Enterprising Maths Final

The Enterprising Maths in Scotland Final was held in Glasgow Science Centre on Tuesday 6th November. The team Vlad, Raj, Eoghan and Emily competed in a number of rounds testing their Mathematical knowledge, practical skills and problem solving abilities. The finale was a timed relay-round that got everyone on their feet, competing to answer as many questions as possible in the time given.

Nearly 70 schools from all over Scotland were involved in the finals and our team put in an outstanding effort and were rewarded with a place in the top 10. Well done team !



S4 Business Awareness Event 2018



This year, S4 Business Management pupils attended a S4 Business Awareness Event Conference in November. During the day, Laura Vernett from Harper MacLeod LLP and Deirdre O'Donnell from BT delivered presentations to students about their role in business. The speakers also set the students real-life tasks to work on in groups.



Presenter, Laura Vernett (Marketing Director for Harper MacLeod LLP) spoke about her career, particularly areas relating to branding and the use of the marketing mix in relation to Harper MacLeod. Pupils were then asked to use their knowledge to come up with a product of their own (using their own understanding of marketing) before presenting their findings to fellow pupils. Deirdre O'Donnell from BT spoke about the role of technology and expanded the pupils' current knowledge of BT. Pupils were given a task whereby they participated in an assessment centre for a management position and they had to work together to come up solutions to issues that managers face with employees on a day-to-day basis.



The feedback from the events was excellent – some pupils' comments are as follows:
"I enjoyed doing the task and learning more about what we are doing in business."
"I learned more about sponsorships and enjoyed producing my own company idea."
"I learned more about the role of BT and how they provide jobs for people."

The event allowed pupils to link the theory taught in class to the world of work but was also was an opportunity for them to further develop their skills for learning, life and work.

We would like to extend our gratitude to Laura Vernett and Deirdre O'Donnell who gave up their time to participate in the Business Awareness Event. Without the partnership from valuable employees we would not be able to contextualise learning fully to the real world of business.

Business Dynamics Conference 2018

The annual Business Dynamics Conference was held for all S5/6 Business Management pupils over three days in November. During each day, speakers from industry delivered presentations to students about their role in business. The speakers also set the students real-life tasks and activities to work on in groups.

Presenters included Chief Executive of Scottish Engineering, Paul Sheerin, who gave pupils a fascinating insight into his "story" and about the exciting changes in the world of engineering. Janet McLean from the Robertson Group who set pupils a challenge in construction and manufacturing as well as Jaclyn McKie from Isle of Arran Distillers who spoke to pupils about the company's new product portfolio and their use of digital marketing, with pupils presenting their ideas to her about how to further develop their digital platform.

The feedback from the events was excellent and not only did they help pupils to link the theory taught in class to the world of work but also was an opportunity for them to further develop their career management skills.

We would like to thank all the speakers who gave up their time to participate in the Conference and for showing us how the skills we are acquiring in school are of relevance in the real world of business.



Fashion Show

'The Greatest Fashion Show on Earth' took place in the school on Thursday 30th November in the main hall. No-one escaped from participation; from sound to lighting to singing and dancing, everyone had a part to play. The whole school community was involved in some shape or form.

The Show was divided into exciting segments including 'At the Beach', 'Dancing the Night Away', 'Fashion at Work', 'Glitz and Glam' and every scene featured clothing suited to every occasion.

The highlights of the evening included the youngest participants and their dance and gymnastics, and the oldest participants from Oakburn Day Care Centre, at 90 and 95, reliving the 1940s. The Wedding Scene almost stole the show with several brides making an appearance and an energetic argument then ensuing much to the delight of the audience.

We welcomed back former pupil, and former Miss Scotland, Lucy Kerr, showed how it should be done on the catwalk.

The event raised over £3000 pounds with the proceeds helping to fund a wide range of school and community events in the year ahead.

The organisers are very grateful to everyone who contributed to a fantastic evening especially to our sponsors, Tesco, Driftwood, ASOS and MacGregor and MacDuff, M&Co, Slater Menswear, Broker One, and MacKenzie Bagpiping.



Women's Aid East Dunbartonshire

After reading an article in the local press, our Support for Learning Assistants, Tracy Kirkwood-Casey and Fiona MacKenzie decided that they wished to support Women's Aid East Dunbartonshire. With domestic violence impacting on the whole family, Fiona and Tracy felt that they wanted to help those young people affected in our local community, many of whom have fled their homes with nothing.

Christmas is a difficult time for the mothers and children who turn to Women's Aid for help. All gifts and vouchers collected from staff at Douglas Academy have gone directly to those in need. Tracy and Fiona would like to say a huge thank-you to all of those who contributed. We raised around £240 in vouchers and 7 enormous bags of gifts for teenagers.



Media Careers Workshop

'Into Film' hosts an annual festival which provides events for young people interested in film and TV. Our S3 Media pupils took full advantage of this opportunity and attended a careers event hosted by Into Film on Thursday 22nd November.

The pupils visited Film City in Glasgow, which is occupied by a diverse range of professionals from the screen and wider creative industries. Listening to presentations from these media professionals, the pupils learned about a variety of different disciplines such as film production, animation, casting, design and music.

Following these presentations, the pupils were given the exciting challenge of creating and pitching their own TV show to the panel of experts. Both groups developed original ideas and were commended for their presentation skills. Watch out for these future filmmakers!



SSLA Dual Slalom finals

Congratulations to Nikki McKee and Gary Downie who reached the SSLA Dual Slalom finals.

These two intrepid S2 students raced against 4th, 5th and 6th year pupils and although they didn't win, they skied incredibly well and held their own against the other teams.



Nikki and Gary in action! Nikki is in the white helmet and Royal blue jumper and Gary has the dark helmet and navy jacket.



In late November

Nikki also represented Douglas Academy in the Ski Cross competition. This was Nikki's first ski cross competition and she did extremely well. She came 8th in her category with a time of 16.88 seconds. It was an extremely close competition - the girl who took 3rd place had a time of 16.08! Happily - being so close - Nikki is determined to keep working hard at her racing.



PUPILS HIT THE HEIGHTS!



It is widely recognised both in school and in the local community that many of our pupils give hours of their own time to help others. Last year, every pupil in S2 was awarded a Saltire Certificate for volunteering! All were involved in the Christmas Puzzle Book project for Glasgow Childrens' Hospital Charity and the Youth Philanthropy Initiative. This gave pupils 10 hours of volunteering hours and started many of them on their volunteering journey – a journey it is hoped they will continue on through school and beyond.

Each year another 70 or so pupils are awarded Saltire Summit Certificates for volunteering – this gives them a chance to track their own volunteering and gain formal recognition for their efforts.

Certificates range from 10 hours to 500 hours and last year 40 pupils volunteered for 100 hours or more. This is tremendous achievement, particularly as this volunteering is on top of their class work and exams!



The most prestigious Saltire Award is the Saltire Summit. The Summit is for an “outstanding contribution to volunteering” and is only awarded to those who have exceeded expectations. To date this year, we have nominated fifteen pupils – five prior to the summer and more recently, ten senior pupils. We are proud and delighted that all our nominations were successful! The pupils awarded the Saltire Summit are a credit to Douglas Academy and the local community. Each pupil has upheld the values and ethos we are proud of at Douglas Academy and are a tremendous role models for younger pupils.

Huge congratulations to:

Callum Davidson

Amelia Webb

Chloe Beardsley

Veanna Lee

Morven Sinclair

Katie Hamilton

Airyn Patrick

Becky Miller

Caitlin McGhee

Cristina Vilafranca

Georgia Capaldi

Hannah Campbell

Katy Boyce

Leticia Nedd

Olivia Niblett

2018



The schools' Young Enterprise company – Stars Align, experienced great business success in the production and selling of their products this year.



After undertaking some market research, it was decided that this year's products would be A4 personalised constellations of stars on a day of a special memory such as a wedding day. The team worked hard during October and November to get their prototypes and final product ideas prepared for the annual Young Enterprise Trade Fair competition.

On the 1 December, the day finally arrived for the Dunbartonshire Trade Fair competition and the team made their way to Clydebank Shopping Centre. Nerves were high at the start of the day as it was the first public event that the company would be attending. After the nerves settled the sales started to begin, and the team got off to a good start. The company members built on their confidence in dealing with the customers. It was an exhilarating day and a fully enjoyable experience for all who were involved to develop their employability skills.

Final preparations are now underway for the next part of the competition, which includes preparing a presentation and business report which will be judged to determine the best overall company of 2018-2019 in March next year.

The Book That Saved my Life

East Dunbartonshire's secondary school libraries ran a competition in March 2018 asking pupils to write about a book which had an impact on them. A selection of these entries have been published in a booklet called **The Book That Saved my Life** which has been produced as part of the 'Shelf Help' project. The Teenage Mental Health initiative 'Shelf Help – You are not alone' aims to promote the use of fiction and non-fiction books to assist pupils in maintaining good mental health and deal with stress and anxiety. It is funded by the Scottish School Library Improvement Fund and run by EDC Secondary school librarians. A range of fiction and non-fiction books have been added to all secondary school libraries in East Dunbartonshire.

On Monday 10th December an informal event was held in the Library for the launch of **The Book That Saved my Life** and to celebrate the pupils' achievements in becoming published authors.

Congratulations go to: Dominic Morgan 3B, David Smith 4C, Maisie Franssen- McIlroy 4D, Lara Swinson 4D, Emma Sherwood 4E, Lauren McGuinness 4F and Sulayman Sarr 4F. Copies of **The Book That Saved my Life** are available in the Library, Wellbeing Support Base, Guidance Base and English department.



Douglas Academy's Go Purple Event

Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity Innovative Play and Events Programme Appeal

On Thursday 11 October, Douglas Academy turned purple for Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity's Innovative Play and Events Programme, to help educate, entertain and reassure children during their time in hospital.

A "Plaster it Purple" non-uniform day was organised, where many pupils and staff wore purple and donated their £1 to the Play and Events Programme Appeal. Every penny that the pupils and staff at Douglas Academy donated helped raise a fantastic total of **£840.00!**

Well done to all pupils and staff who helped to organise the event, and also a massive thank you to all pupils and staff at Douglas Academy who helped support the fundraising to achieve the massive total of **£840.00!**

